

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

1. (Original) A method for data transmission where a predetermined number (N) of idle frames are sent when data transmission is completed, the method comprising the steps of:
 - transmitting a plurality of data frames to a remote unit;
 - determining that a final data frame has been transmitted to the remote unit;
 - transmitting a first plurality (K) of idle frames in response to the determination that the final data frame has been transmitted to the remote unit;
 - receiving a negative acknowledgment (NAK) from the remote unit indicating that a data frame was improperly received;
 - retransmitting the improperly-received data frame; and
 - transmitting N-K idle frames to the remote unit after retransmitting the data frame.
2. (Original) The method of claim 1 wherein the step of transmitting the first plurality of idle frames comprises the step of transmitting the first plurality of idle frames, each having a sequence number incremented from the final data frame transmitted.
3. (Original) The method of claim 1 wherein the step of receiving the negative acknowledgment comprises the step of receiving the negative acknowledgment, wherein the negative acknowledgment comprises a sequence number for a frame not received by the remote unit.
4. (Original) The method of claim 1 further comprising the steps of:
 - determining if the NAK is requesting retransmission of the final data frame; and
 - sending no more idle frames if the NAK is requesting retransmission of the final data frame, otherwise sending N-K idle frames to the remote unit after retransmitting the data frame.
5. (Previously Presented) A method for data transmission where a predetermined number of idle frames are sent when data transmission is completed, the method comprising the steps of:

transmitting a plurality of data frames to a remote unit;
determining that a final data frame has been transmitted to the remote unit;
transmitting a first plurality of idle frames in response to the determination that the final data frame has been transmitted to the remote unit;
receiving a negative acknowledgment (NAK) from the remote unit indicating that the final data frame was improperly received;
retransmitting the final data frame; and
sending no more idle frames after the retransmission of the final data frame in response to the determination that the final data frame was improperly received.

6. (Original) The method of claim 5 wherein the step of transmitting the first plurality of idle frames comprises the step of transmitting the first plurality of idle frames, each having a sequence number incremented from the final data frame sent.

7. (Original) The method of claim 5 wherein the step of receiving the NAK comprises the step of receiving the NAK, wherein the NAK comprises a sequence number for a frame not received by the remote unit.

8. (Canceled)

9. (Original) An apparatus for transmitting data within a communication system where a predetermined number (N) of idle frames are sent when data transmission is completed, the apparatus comprising:

transmitting circuitry for outputting a plurality of data frames and idle frames to a remote unit;
receiving circuitry having a NAK'd data frame as an input; and
logic circuitry, determining that a final data frame has been transmitted to the remote unit and instructing the transmitting circuitry to transmit a first plurality (K) of idle frames in response to the determination that the final data frame has been transmitted to the remote unit and to transmit N-K idle frames to the remote unit after retransmitting the NAK'd data frame.

10. (Original) The apparatus of claim 9 wherein the idle frames have a sequence number incremented from the final data frame transmitted.
11. (Original) The apparatus of claim 9 wherein the NAK comprises a sequence number for a frame not received by the remote unit.
12. (Currently Amended) The apparatus of claim 9 wherein the logic ~~unit circuitry~~ further instructs the transmitting circuitry to send no more idle frames if the NAK's data frame is requesting retransmission of ~~a~~ the final data frame.
13. (Original) An apparatus for transmitting data within a communication system, the apparatus comprising:
 - transmitting circuitry for outputting a plurality of data frames and idle frames to a remote unit;
 - receiving circuitry having a NAK'd data frame as an input; and
 - logic circuitry, determining that a final data frame has been transmitted to the remote unit and instructing the transmitting circuitry to send no more idle frames if the NAK'd data frame is requesting retransmission of the final data frame.
14. (Original) The apparatus of claim 13 wherein the idle frames have a sequence number incremented from the final data frame transmitted.
15. (Original) The apparatus of claim 13 wherein the NAK comprises a sequence number for a frame not received by the remote unit.

16-18. (Canceled)